to the municipalities etc. for development of cities. Funds for urban development are provided in the state plans and the State Governments formulate appropriate projects in accordance with their needs and priorities. In addition, Central loan assistance is provided to States for development of small and medium towns under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of IDSMT. Grants are also provided to States under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Urban Basic services which aims at improving the degree and quality of survival and development of children of urban low income families. World Bank assisted urban development projects are also in operation in a number of cities/towns. Generally, these Centrally Sponsored Schemes and the World Bank projects are implemented by the Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and other local bodies.

Report of foreign consultants on Namrup, Barauni and Durgapur Fertilizers Plants

2144. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had appointed foreign consultants to carry out an end-to-end survey of Namrup, Barauni and Durgapur Fertilizer plants of H.F.C.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the consultants have since submitted their report to HFC; and

(d) if so, the salient features of the said report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC), with the approval of Government, appointed M/s. Haldor Topsoe to carry out an end-to-end survey of Namrup, Barauni and Durgapur Fertilizer Plants.

(b) to (d) The consultants in their report, suggested revamping rehabilitation of the plants in three main stages with minimum loss of production, at an estimated cost of Rs. 486.39 crores. After rehabilitation the plants are expected to achieve the rated capacity utilisation.

Hormonal infertility in milch cattle

2145. SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are millions of cases of hormonal infertility in milch cattle in the country;

(b) whether Prostaglandin F2 alpha is required for the treatment of the above animals; and

(c) if so, whether the Ministry proposes to recommend to Government for extending the customs duty exemption for import of raw material to the private sector with technical know-how to manufacture, finished products out of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. There are large number of cattle affected by infertility. The major causes of infertility in cattle are malnutrition, infectious diseases, congential malformation and hormonal imbalances.

(b) Prostaglandin F2 alpha is one among many drugs useful in improvement of fertility.

(c) The Government have not taken any decision in this regard.